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appears in the King's soul so strong he is blinded by it, should not Hamlet as an intellectual being who has just written and acted the vital part of the play for the inspiration of the players, be riveted to his seat by the sight of a phenomenon in soul-suffering that death would defeat, a suffering that makes a physical revenge a barbarism as unthinkable by him as it is by you and me?

But Shakespeare's audience were barbarians, most of them. Drake was more popular in that day than was our immortal poet. Hamlet, with self-accusations, apologizes to *this* audience for his procrastination and his indecision. And our poet certainly had a time to keep this bloodthirsty audience interested while keeping Hamlet as an intellectual being tormented with a light that grows stronger in its hold upon the King and in its fascination for Hamlet, until in the final scene the revenge of the Ghost is lost in a confusion of killings that is a tribute paid to the Elizabethan audience.

ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI.

C. M. S.

GUIDING INTELLIGENCE IN EVOLUTION

SIR,—In Mr. Burroughs's article in *THE NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW* for February, entitled "The Arrival of the Fit," he cites seeming evidences of a guiding principle or "reasonableness" in evolution, while he also points out that there are many things in evolution which seem to contradict the idea of a guiding intelligence.

If, in searching for a companion in the desert, I find tracks that resemble his, I am entirely justified in believing that he has been in that particular place, and that, although I do not see him, he is somewhere in that vicinity. There may be mysteries about the tracks that I do not understand. They may be distinct for a distance and then mysteriously disappear; but, nevertheless, I am positively convinced that my companion has been on the spot, and no power on earth can shake my faith in the belief.

The "tendencies," the "reasonableness," and the "primordial push" mentioned by Mr. Burroughs are the tracks of a guiding intelligence in the desert of "failures and monstrosities," of "waste and suffering and delay" in evolution. If we are ever to have a religious faith that accords with the principles of evolution, we should carefully treasure every footprint or sign of a guiding intelligence in evolution. We should not be dismayed by the occasional disappearance of the traces of intelligence, or by the limitless waste about us. The particular shape which each organ assumes, and the particular tissue which it absorbs, under all circumstances and conditions in its formation and development, also appear to be results of a guiding intelligence. Permit me to say that I believe one may become as positively convinced of the existence and operation of a guiding intelligence in the development of living forms as of the existence and nearness of a companion on viewing his footprints in the sand.

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A COUNCIL OF NEUTRAL NATIONS

SIR,—The Supreme Court of the United States within its recognized jurisdiction has avoided decision in cases where no means existed for their enforcement upon that ground. International Law, so called, has no independent means by which its authority can be exerted. It formerly rested upon